

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 687  
By Godsey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate E. Douglas Varney, President and CEO of Frontier Health, on thirty years of service to the State of Tennessee as an advocate and leader in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens that, through their dedication, perseverance, and innovation, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve the common good by providing quality care for those persons who have mental illnesses, substance abuse addiction, and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, E. Douglas Varney is one such laudable individual who has served the mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability needs of Region I and throughout the State of Tennessee for thirty years, and expanding services into Planning District One in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, E. Douglas Varney has participated on the local, state, and national levels in the development and strengthening of services for individuals with mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of E. Douglas Varney, Frontier Health has achieved national accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), for programs and services delivered; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations recognized E. Douglas Varney with the Volunteer Leadership Award for his continuous personal sacrifice and dedication since 1979 and for working tirelessly on behalf of persons who have mental illnesses, substance abuse addiction, and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Quality Commitment Award recognized E. Douglas Varney and Frontier Health, the first Tennessee mental health organization to earn the award, for its commitment to performance excellence and quality achievement; and

WHEREAS, the Community Health Improvement Partnership recognized E. Douglas Varney for his strong leadership in developing the Central Appalachian Health Improvement Partnership to provide an electronic medical record that is sharable with healthcare providers to ensure a coordinated continuum of health care; and

WHEREAS, E. Douglas Varney and Frontier Health was the first recipient of the John A. Paton Technology Innovation Award given in 2004 by CMHC Systems; recognizing their role as a pioneer in deploying an electronic medical record that leads to better communication and improved client outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Tennessee Technology Council recognized E. Douglas Varney and the Frontier Health Electronic Medical Record as a TechStar 2004 Use of Technology by Non-Profit Agency for excelling in the development of technology to advance customer service, improve business processes, maximize communications, and significantly reduce costs; and

WHEREAS, E. Douglas Varney and Frontier Health has been recognized by Mental Health Corporations of American, Incorporated, with an Award of Excellence for Best Practices; and

WHEREAS, through thirty years of dedicated service and leadership to the staff of Frontier Health, E. Douglas Varney has been supported by his wife, Teresa, and daughters, Emilie, Lauren, and Leandra; and

WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly wish to seize this golden opportunity to recognize the exceptional effort and dedication shown by E. Douglas Varney in meeting the needs of persons who have mental illnesses, substance abuse addiction, and developmental disabilities with a degree of excellence unmatched in Tennessee's behavioral health community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we do hereby recognize and congratulate E. Douglas Varney for thirty

years of unwavering dedication to excellence and advocacy on behalf of persons who have mental illnesses, substance abuse addiction, and developmental disabilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.